

S.N. 10/795,177

Art Unit 3632

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following claims:

1. (Original) A method for reducing the formation of biofilm deposits on a wall in a water system comprising the steps of:

providing a capacitive electrostatic generator adapted to create an electrostatic field;

immersing said electrostatic generator in a body of water in the water system, the water system being connected to an electrical ground relative to an electromotive force available for energizing the electrostatic generator; and

energizing said electrostatic generator with said electromotive force, such that a corresponding electrostatic field is created between said generator immersed in the water system and said electrical ground without measurable current leakage in the body of water;

wherein said capacitive electrostatic generator comprises a vitrified ceramic tube of unibody construction having an integrally-sealed end defining an inner cavity with an inner wall; conductive material contained within said inner cavity and disposed in intimate contact with said inner wall; electrically-insulated sealing means for providing hermetic closure to said inner cavity; and electrical means for energizing said conductive material with a static electromotive force.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said voltage is greater than about 10,000 volts DC.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said voltage is greater than about 30,000 volts DC.